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COUNTRY Spain/Italy

CIA

SUBJECT Market for Cotton Ginning Machinery

DATE

PLACE ACQUIRED  
(BY SOURCE) - - - -

Supplement to:

DATE ACQUIRED 25X1X6  
(BY SOURCE)

Responsive to:

DATE (OF INFO)

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1. SPAIN (Including the mainland and parts of Spanish Morocco)  
Cotton production amounts to about 70 thousand bales per year. About half the cotton produced in these areas is of the Egyptian Giza seven variety, and is being ginned on Platt single roller gins. The production of Upland varieties is on the increase, and Spain is in bad need of some new ginning machinery. There are about seven or eight Murray gin plants in Spain, of which all but two are quite old, and even the newer ones are of a simple type.
2. There is no other US competition in Spain, although there is one <sup>Sources in</sup> firm in Spain (Balbontin of Seville) which specializes in copying Murray gins and Carver Linters. These copies are not satisfactory, but as this is the only gin machine of the saw type which the Spaniards have been able to buy in recent years; there are several of these copies now being used in Spain.
3. Spain has no money with which to buy US goods, and this has hampered the sale of machinery to Spain in recent years. There is some possibility that this condition will be alleviated within the coming year [1955]. Spain will never be a large market, but when they are able to buy abroad, there should be some nice business from them.

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4. ITALY (Including Sicily)

Cotton production amounts to about 30 thousand b/yr. Within the past four years [1950-1954] Italy has purchased five 3-90 Murray gin plants, and these gins handle the major part of the Italian crop. Some of the crop is still being ginned on a small Italian made unit type of gin, but these are not favored by the Italians, as they do a relatively poor grade of work and must be hand fed.

5. Italy and Sicily are good for sales of some additional machinery, but the total value will be relatively small, and there is little anticipation that the cotton crop will increase appreciably in the near future.

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*Cotton gins*

*50-59.8*

*148 Italy*

*TYPE NOT CLEAR*

*36 54*

*170*

*- 57*

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